

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 SSM-03 USIE-00

NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12 INRE-00

SSO-00 /096 W

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O R 261148Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5190

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 12517

CAIRO FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, PK/ XF

SUBJECT: PAKISTANI MESSAGE TO SADAT ON STATUS OF JERUSALEM

1. FOREIGN SECRETARY SHAHNAWAZ TOOK ADVANTAGE OF OUR MEETING
THIS MORNING ON OTHER MATTERS (SEPTTEL) TO BRIEF ME ON
MESSAGE CHIEF MARTIAL LAW ADMINISTRATOR (CMLA) ZIA SENT TO
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EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT SADAT DECEMBER 25 ON THE SUBJECT OF
JERUSALEM.

2. REVIEWING GOP POLICY REGARDING SADAT'S RECENT ACTIVITIES,
SHANAWAZ NOTED THAT UNTIL NOW IT HAD BEEN PAKISTAN'S
POLICY TO AVOID BEING "MISINTERPRETED" OR OTHERWISE BEING
DRAWN INTO WHAT ARE ESSENTIALLY INTRA-ARAB DIFFERENCES

REGARDING SADAT INITIATIVES. HE NOTED THAT USG HAD EXPRESSED TO GOP A HOPE THAT GOP WOULD NOT DAMAGE PROPECTS FOR SUCCESS OF SADAT'S INITIATIVE BY HASTY OR CRITICAL PUBLIC STATEMENTS. GOP HAD SUCCESSFULLY RESISTED PRESSURES, AT HOME AND FROM ABROAD, TO EXPRESS A PAKISTANI VIEW.

3. THE KIND OF "COMPREHENSIVE SETTLEMENT" TO WHICH BOTH THE EGYPTIANS AND THE ISRAELIS ARE NOW REFERRING, HOWEVER, HAS CHANGED THE GOP'S CALCULUS, PRIMARILY BECAUSE OF PAKISTAN'S LONG TIME TIME IN THE STATUS OF JERUSALEM. PAKISTANI PUBLIC OPINION WOULD NOT UNDERSTAND CONTINUED PAKISTANI RETICENCE IN THIS MATTER, HE SAID, GIVEN THE BROADER ISLAMIC CONCERNS ABOUT THE FUTURE OF JERUSALEM--A CITY HOLY TO ISLAM AS TO OTHERS--AND THE NUMEROUS UN RESOLUTIONS SUPPORTED AND/OR ORIGINATED BY PAKISTAN CXPRESSING THE CONCERN OF THE WORLD COMMUNITY ABOUT CHANGES IN THE STATUS OF JERSUALEM. FEELING IT WAS NECESSARY, THEREFORE, TO TAKE SOME STOP IN THIS BROADER CONTEXT, GENERAL ZIA SENT A MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT SADAT ON DECEMBER 25 WHICH, INTER-ALIA:

- A. TAKES NOTE OF THE ISMAILIA SUMMIT;
- B. EXPRESSES PAKISTAN'S "ANXIOUS INTEREST" IN RECENT DEVELOPMENTS;
- C. "PRAYS" THAT THE OUTCOME WILL BE A "JUST SETTLEMENT" OF THIS LONG-STANDING DISPUTE BETWEEN THE ARABS AND ISRAEL;
- D. "UNDERSTANDS" THAT THE TALKS WILL INCLUDE DISCUSSION OF THE FUTURE OF JERUSALEM;

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- E. "TRUSTS" THAT THE RESULT WILL "DO JUSTICE" TO BROADER ISLAMIC INTERESTS WITH REGARD TO JERUSALEM AS EXPRESSED IN UNGA RESOLUTIONS 2253 AND 2254 AND IN UNSC RESOLUTIONS 252, 267, AND 271, AS WELL AS IN THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE OF THE ISLAMIC SUMMIT IN LAHORE IN 1974; AND,
- F. EXPRESSES CONFIDENCE RHALSTHESE RESOLUTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS WILL BE "FOREMOST" IN PRESIDENT SADAT'S MIND DURING HIS TALKS.

4. SHAHNAWAZ SAID THAT ZIA'S MESSAGE WILL APPEAR IN THE PRESS HERE TOMORROW AND THAT HE WISHED TO ENSURE THE USG HAD KNOWLEDGE OF THE MESSAGE AND OF THE FACTORS WHICH IMPELLED THE GOP TO SEND IT BEFORE IT BECAME PUBLIC. I THANKED HIM AND SAID I WOULD INFORM WASHINGTON IMMEDIATELY.Q

5. COMMENT: WE KNOW FROM OTHER SOURCES THAT THE GOP HAS BEEN UNDER PRESSURE TO SAY SOMETHING ABOUT THE SADAT INITIATIVES AND RECENT DEVELOPMENTS. THE GOP AT ALL LEVELS HAS GENUINE CONCERN ABOUT THE RISKS SADAT IS NOW TAKING BUT HAS BEEN HERETOFORE UNWILLING TO STEP INTO AN INTRA-ARAB DOGFIGHT. THE JERUSALEM QUESTION, IN WHICH ALL MUSLIMS PRESUMABLY SHARE INTERESTS, HAS PROVIDED A HAPPY PEG ON

WHICH ZIA HAS BEEN ABLE TO PUT PAKISTAN ON RECORD IN THE
LEAST CONTROVERSIAL WAY POSSIBLE, FROM HIS POINT OF VIEW. IN
SO DOING HE HAS ALSO VOICED, INFERENTIALLY AND BY AVOIDING
CRITICISM, PAKISTANI SUPPORT FOR THE CURRENT TALKS, AND FROM
THE FANTAGE POINT OF EMBASSY ISLAMABAD, THAT WOULD APPEAR
TO BE ALL TO THE GOOD.

HUMMEL

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